



Hotspots

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Restoration Advisory
Board
MCAS Cherry Point

Summer, 1999

"Yesterday's Pollution, Today's Solution"

A message from the Restoration Advisory Board

I would like to start by saying the contents of this article are of my opinion and if any comments are contrary to what "really" happens, then so be it. Further, this article is an attempt to provide a "comparison and contrast" between a federal and a local organization. Both organizations employ community volunteers to enhance their efforts to restore the environment to the point that it is aesthetically desirable and safe for human habitat.

Frequently, in the course of everyday events, I am asked "What is the Restoration Advisory Board and what does it do?" I hasten to add though, that this question only comes after the conversation has involved the environment and I have had the opportunity to explain that I'm trying to do my "two cents" worth. That is, "two cents" worth in restoring and conserving the environment. I usually answer the question by explaining in overview the Federal Facilities Installation Restoration program and the involvement of the USMC/Cherry Point Command. As a member of the Restoration Advisory Board, I further explain that I act as a focal point for exchanging information between MCAS Cherry Point Installation Restoration (IR) program representatives and the local community. The IR representatives can include contractor, regulatory personnel, and MCAS Cherry Point Environmental representatives. The IR program is a Federally funded nationwide endeavor; however, from a practical standpoint the results of its effort at MCAS Cherry Point will only be observed in Craven County and parts of some adjoining counties.

That said, I would like to further dwell on another area of my involvement in the conservation and restoration of the environment. Because, you see, I am also a member of the Craven County Clean Sweep Committee and I presently serve as the Chairman of that organization. Whereas the

Installation Restoration program generally involves cleanup of past and usually sub-surface pollution aboard federal facilities, the Clean Sweep committee is involved with the cleanup of pollution taking place in the present, on the surface, and in the Greater Craven County area. Both organizations employ paid coordinators and use community volunteers to provide a communication link to the public at large.

Serving the public as a volunteer member of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) can be interesting, educational, and in some cases confusing (but never boring). Actual advice to the operational members of the IR program by RAB members is usually limited to those with a technical background relative to the pollution/environment/engineering disciplines. There is little "hands on" work associated with this membership and communicating information to the general public can be downright frustrating at times. The "what you can't see can't hurt you" attitude prevails in many public circles and carrying the message of the IR program can be difficult, but challenging and rewarding.

The Clean Sweep program, as administered on the County (local) level, can be almost all "hands on" work. This to include picking up cigarette butts with a pin on stick to coordinating a community effort at picking up the refuse along roadsides or in mall parking lots. Education is also a main tenant of the Clean Sweep program. The paid coordinator visits schools, community clubs, and other local institutions promoting the virtues of reducing pollution, increasing recycling, and reusing previously discarded items. The volunteers of Clean Sweep are also involved extensively in educating the general public. They likewise promote environmental protection in their association with local organizations and actively

solicit ideas and comments from the general public. On a National level, The Clean Sweep coordinator represents the "Keep America Beautiful" organization and is empowered to implement the policies of that organization if so desired. The biggest contribution that Clean Sweep makes toward restoring and maintaining a healthful environment at the local level is the coordination of the recycling program. This Craven County program is tops in North Carolina and one of the best in the Nation.

From my perspective, the environmental pollution that has taken place in Craven County North Carolina has been contained and is being rapidly nullified. On-going environmental contamination is being monitored and is being rapidly neutralized when discovered. Two agencies responsible for this improved environmental outlook are the Environmental Affairs Department at MCAS Cherry Point and the Craven County Clean Sweep Organization. Although different in structure, they use volunteers to accomplish their mission and the message they carry is the same, "to improve the physical quality of community life".

Neil Scarborough
RAB and Clean Sweep Member

March and July RAB Meetings

During the March RAB meeting, Tetra Tech NUS provided an overview of the Slocum Creek fish tissue study that was performed to address human health concerns associated with the consumption of fish taken from the creek. Following the presentation, the RAB members held an open discussion of the study's findings. CH2M Hill demonstrated the new interactive web page that is in development. Tetra Tech NUS briefly reviewed the developing Operable Unit 1 sample strategy plan for soils and the Slocum Creek screening level ecological risk assessment work plan. ME3 LLC closed the meeting with a training session on risk assessment basics; including several tips on readily accessible resources that are available to RAB members seeking additional information on the risk assessment process.

In July, the Air Station introduced Ms. Angie Lane and Ms. Laura Muhs to the RAB. The RAB then

discussed several issues pertaining to the Hotspots newsletter, the administrative record, and the technical training desired by the RAB members. The meeting wrapped up with a summary of the restoration work planned for the Air Station in the near future.

Fish Consumption Human Health Risk Assessment Study for Slocum Creek Completed

The Navy and Marine Corps have completed the Fish Consumption Human Health Risk Assessment Report for Slocum Creek. The report documents the results of the fish tissue sampling that was performed to evaluate the human health risks associated with the consumption of fish taken from Slocum Creek.

The results of the study indicate that North Carolina fish advisories for Slocum Creek are not warranted and that ingestion of fish taken from Slocum Creek by recreational fisherman is not likely to result in adverse health effects. This report will be included in the MCAS Cherry Point Administrative Record and, when available, may be reviewed or downloaded from the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.lantops-ir.org/cherrypoint/home/>.

Intern to Examine Surface Water, Sediment and Drainage

MCAS Cherry Point welcomes the efforts of Ms. Laura Muhs, an intern from North Carolina State University. Ms. Muhs research will focus on surface water and sediment contamination in the creeks surrounding the Air Station from an ecological perspective. She will also be delineating the Air Station's surface water drainage characteristics in support of this effort.

Land Use Control Assurance Plan Executed

On 24 May 1999, representatives of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources and U. S. Environmental Protection

Agency joined Major General Thomas A. Braaten, Commanding General, MCAS Cherry Point, in executing the Land Use Controls Assurance Plan. This landmark agreement outlines the processes by which the Air Station will provide the regulatory agencies with reasonable assurances that all land use and exposure assumptions relied upon when applying alternative, risk based standards to a given site will remain valid for as long as is necessary to prevent exposure to contaminated media. The agreement clears the way for the consideration of present and future land use in the remedy selection process and allows the implementation of land use controls as part of the site remedy. This agreement sets a significant precedent for expediting site cleanups at federal facilities in North Carolina.

Next RAB Meeting

The next two meetings of the RAB will be at 7 p.m. on September 22, 1999, and December 1, 1999. These meetings will be held at the Holiday Inn located in Havelock N.C.

All RAB meetings are open to the public so mark your calendars and we hope to see you there.

For further information, please contact the MCAS Public Affairs Office Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at (252) 466-4241.

Installation Restoration (IR) Program Reports to be Submitted Soon

<i>Title of Report</i>	<i>Expected</i>	<i>Description</i>
Remedial Investigation (RI)* Work Plan for Operable Unit 4	August 1999	Work Plan for conducting an RI at Operable Unit 4, which consists of a 10-acre permitted landfill and adjacent borrow pits
Remedial Investigation (RI)* Work Plan for Operable Unit 13	August 1999	Work Plan for conducting an RI at Operable Unit 13, which consists of a borrow pit/landfill area and a former sludge application area
Work Plan for Construction and Operation of the Air Sparge Remediation System at OU3, Site 7	September 1999	Work Plan for the installation and operation of an air sparge system to remediate dissolved phase petroleum-related contamination in groundwater at a former disposal and open burning area
Background Evaluation Report	October 1999	Evaluates the soil and groundwater data to be used as a "background" data set for the air station. The results of future site investigations will be compared against the background data set to help determine if there have been any environmental impacts.
Remedial Action Report (RAR)** for Operable Unit 2 Soils	October 1999	Describes the construction activities and operation of a soil vapor extraction (SVE) system treating four soil "hot spot" areas containing volatile organic compound (VOC) contamination
Long-Term Monitoring/Remedial Action Plan for Operable Unit 2 Soils	October 1999	Work Plan for the long-term implementation of the remedial action. Describes the long-term remedial strategy and how maintenance, monitoring, and reporting will be conducted.
Remedial Investigation (RI)* Work Plan for Operable Unit 1	November 1999	Work Plan for conducting an RI at Operable Unit 1, which consists of a number of mostly industrial sites in and around the Naval Aviation Depot (NADEP).
Remedial Action Report (RAR)** for Operable Unit 1, Site 16	November 1999	Describes the construction activities and operation of an air sparge/SVE system to remediate a VOC plume at a former miscellaneous waste disposal site in an industrial portion of the air station.
Screening-Level Ecological Risk Assessment Report for Operable Unit 15	December 1999	Evaluates surface water and sediment data and presents the results of a screening-level ecological risk assessment for Slocum Creek as a whole.

*Remedial Investigation (RI) - an investigation to collect the data necessary to assess risks to human health and the environment and to support the development, evaluation, and selection of remedial alternatives.

**Remedial Action Report (RAR) - describes how the major tasks of installing and operating a remedial system or process were implemented.

Information Repositories

Information has been placed in the following repositories for public review:

MCAS Library

Building 298, E. Street
MCAS Cherry Point,
North Carolina 28533

The MCAS Library is open Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 9:45 p.m., Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m., and can be contacted at (252) 466-3552.

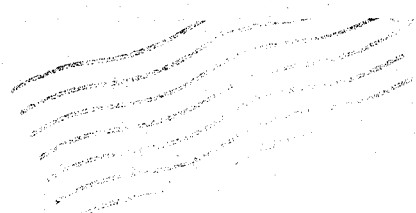
Havelock-Craven County Public Library

300 Miller Boulevard
Havelock,
North Carolina 28532

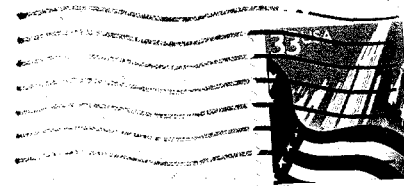
The Havelock-Craven County Library is open Monday and Tuesdays 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

New RAB Members

We are looking for new RAB members to join the MCAS Cherry Point team. If you would like information about becoming part of the RAB, please send your name, address, and phone number to the address below.



HOTSPOTS
The RAB
Commanding General
MCAS
PSC Box 8013
Cherry Point, NC 28533-0013



Mr. Lance Laughmiller
Code 1823
Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic Div
1510 Gilbert St.
Norfolk, VA 235116287



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